



Parent Update – Friday 20th March 2020

Dear Parents/ Carer,

We are all so sad that we are in the position of closing the school today but understand that these measures are so vitally important in the fight against Coronavirus. We said goodbye to our Year 13 and 11 students with very heavy hearts. They have made us so proud both in the manner in which they've handled the decision and also the way in which they've worked over the last two years. As year groups, we saw them taking such responsibility over their learning and are devastated they won't have the opportunity to demonstrate this in May and June. I consider that they've made a sacrifice, albeit not of their own making, for the greater good of the country and will always be able to wear that badge of honour. They will all be Kineton Students until August 31st and I'm sure they will conduct themselves in the manner we'd expect of them.

Please congratulate your children of all year groups for being a joy to work with (nearly all of the time)! There is plenty of work and learning for them to do in the coming weeks and information has been sent out regarding this. We are going to miss them all. The school will be open for vulnerable children and those of key workers on Monday 23rd onwards and there will be staff available between 9am and 12pm if you have an enquiries, alternatively, you can email.

I wish all our families and their wider circles the very best.;I hope you all remain healthy and safe in the coming weeks.

Best wishes,

Helen Bridge

Warwickshire Update

Updated Information about COVID-19 – Novel Coronavirus (20th March 2020)

Current situation

As of late on Monday 16th March 2020, we have moved into the next phase of how we look to protect people in the UK from COVID-19 within the “delay” phase of the COVID-19 action plan, which can be found [here](#).

A press conference was held by the Prime Minister, and the Chief Scientific and Medical Officers on 16th March 2020, who set out the new enhanced approach and reasons for it. Please see [here](#) to watch the press conference in full. On 17th March, the Chancellor set out a package of temporary, targeted measures to support public services, people and businesses – see [here](#). Information about the new Coronavirus bill has also been published [here](#).

On 18th March, it was announced that schools would be closing after Friday 20th March 2020, with the exception of school provision needing to be made for children of “key workers” and vulnerable children. Some guidance on this has now been published [here](#). Increases in testing were also announced.

In a press conference on the 19th March, the Prime Minister announced that the first COVID-19 patient had entered a drug trial, and that trials of the first vaccine would start within a month – see [here](#)

There are 6 key actions identified as part of the current approach:

- 1) Washing hands regularly with soap and water is one of the best ways to prevent spread of the infection, and making sure we clean surfaces that are regularly touched with detergents and chlorine based disinfectants (1000 ppm chlorine)
- 2) Whole household isolation if someone in the household develops COVID-19 symptoms (see below section on Household isolation)
- 3) Stopping all unnecessary social contact with others and unnecessary travel - this advice is particularly important for people with certain health conditions, people over the age of 70 and pregnant women (see below section on Social distancing advice)
- 4) Those with the most serious health conditions will be contacted directly on Monday 23rd March about further restrictions, likely to be put in place for around 12 weeks
- 5) Advice against mass gatherings, as part of reducing social contact, but also ensuring critical workers can be used instead to support COVID-19 work.
- 6) School closure with the exception of school provision being made for “key workers” and vulnerable children – see above. Meals and vouchers will be provided for children who usually have free school meals.

Please see [here](#) for national advice documents translated into a range of languages, courtesy of Doctors of the World

Household isolation

Detailed information and advice for the public about what they, and their family contacts, should do can be found [here](#) on the NHS.uk website (and will be regularly updated). There is some very important detail in the Stay at Home guidance, including at what point people are able to come out of self-isolation, which can be found [here](#)

People do not need to phone NHS111 if their symptoms are mild but should do if their symptoms worsen/if they need medical care, or if symptoms do not get better after 7 days. There is also a [111 online service](#) that people are being asked to use in the first instance. Please call 999 in an emergency

Social distancing advice

Information for the public, and particularly for people aged over 70, people with certain health conditions and pregnant women can be found [here](#)

Please see PHE advice against use of COVID rapid tests that are being marketed [here](#)

Department of Education have a helpline up and running to answer questions about COVID19 related to education:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

It is extremely important, as the national situation evolves, that we think about how we can best support the mental health and wellbeing of people affected by the outbreak – individuals, families, workplaces, schools, as well as people who are working hard to protect the health of our communities. The Mental Health foundation has some good advice [here](#). Also, following simple advice about washing our hands more regularly with soap and water really can make a difference.

Travel advice

Travel advice is changing regularly as the situation changes internationally. **The Foreign Office now recommend against all non-essential travel worldwide - see [here](#).**

School Events, Trips, Fixtures etc

- All DofE expeditions are postponed until further notice. Please follow the Instagram page for updates. **kinetonhighschool_dofe**
- Lord of the Flies performance has now been cancelled.
- We have received no further guidance regarding international trips. We will notify you of any changes if they arise.

Continuity of Learning

- Students studying Art in any year group, please, where possible follow the Art department Instagram page

- Audible have recognised that keeping children reading whilst at home is important, so they have made a lovely selection of books available to listen to <https://stories.audible.com/discovery>

Exams

- All exams are cancelled in May/June. We await confirmation from the DFE as to the awarding of qualifications at GCSE and A Level.

Mental Health Links

- It is extremely important, as the national situation evolves, that we think about how we can best support the mental health and wellbeing of people affected by the outbreak – individuals, families, workplaces, schools, as well as people who are working hard to protect the health of our communities. The Mental Health foundation has some good advice [here](#).

Message from Early Help and Targeted Support Officers

During these very difficult times we are endeavouring to continue to offer a support service wherever we can. If you are struggling with your children's behaviour please contact family support helpline on 01926 412 412. For wider information and guidance contact the Family Information Service on 01926 742 274 or access information via their website or Facebook page.

The Department for Work and Pensions have provided the link below which provides an update on Coronavirus and the impact upon claiming DWP benefits at this time.

https://www.understandinguniversalcredit.gov.uk/coronavirus/?utm_source=http%3a%2f%2fnews.dwp.gov.uk%2fdwplz%2f&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Touchbase+140&utm_term=Touchbase+140&utm_content=28807

For Safeguarding concerns, contact Warwickshire MASH. 01926 414 144

Charlotte Lloyd can be contacted by email charlottelloyd@warwickshire.gov.uk or on her mobile which is 07557 565 812 or you can call Nina Mankoo on 07788 925 165 who covers the Warwick and Central area. This could just be for a 'check in' or for advice and signposting to services.

School Health and Wellbeing Service

The School Health Team have cancelled all non-essential visits to schools for the foreseeable future. However, parents/carers and young people are still able to contact a member of the school health team for advice and support when needed as follows:

- Parents/carers can call the service on **03300 245 204** or text Parentline on **07520 619 376**.
- Young people aged 11-19 can text ChatHealth on **07507 331 525** (see attached for ChatHealth poster).
- These services are available Monday-Thursday 9am-5pm and Friday 9am-4.30pm.
- Our service webpage contains useful information for children, young people and their families and will be updated with the latest information and advice from our service: <https://www.compass-uk.org/services/warwickshire-school-health-wellbeing-service/>
- Support and information is also available from the Family Information Service (FIS) - <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fis>

The Warwickshire local welfare scheme helps our most vulnerable residents at times of unavoidable crisis when they have no other means of help. The scheme provides basic and essential help for food and energy. This is given either in emergency food parcels or with credit for energy.

Please go to the following website <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/localwelfarescheme>

Fosse Foodbank Information

Bishops Itchington - 07786 076069

No vouchers needed and will continue running the service.

Kineton – 07964 412010

No vouchers needed and will continue running the service. If families wish to go to the distribution centre they will need a voucher which will be issued at in the centre.

Southam – 07745 244493

They are still running the service, limited time of a couple of weeks. If no vouchers are available emergency ones will be issued. Please provide name, address and number of children in the household. No delivery or collection from The Graham Adams Centre 11am -12 noon. Family to attend the centre and wait outside to collect in that hour. Information will be displayed on the outside of the building. They can issue to Harbury, Napton, Long Itchington and Stockton but no delivery and collection as above. Southam families only will also be eligible for a £5 gift.

Wellesbourne – 07581 297187

No vouchers needed and will continue running the service. For emergency parcels a referral will be necessary. This will be a drop on the doorstep and ring the doorbell.

Citizens Advice South Warwickshire

CASW is working to provide the best, most sustainable service during the Coronavirus outbreak. We have a duty of care to keep clients, volunteers and staff safe in line with Government Guidelines. To do this, we need to make changes to our service.

From today - Friday 20 March - we will provide no face to face appointments and no drop in sessions through any of our offices, outreaches or home visiting projects unless in an absolute emergency and only if we have capacity.

To remain available and effective, we have increased our capacity in four areas to support our community in the safest way possible:

- **Instant Self Help:** As always many issues can be solved through our comprehensive and informative online resource on our brand partner website www.citizensadvice.org.uk
- **Phone:** You can reach us by phone between 10:00 - 15:00 Monday to Friday on **0300 330 1183**
- **Email:** Our email form can be found here www.casouthwarwickshire.org.uk/contact/email-us
- **Webchat:** www.casouthwarwickshire.org.uk/contact/chat-with-us

When lines are busy, we still have an answer phone facility. Call backs might be made outside core hours and from a withheld number. When leaving an answerphone message, please remember to provide:

- Your name
- Your number, and;
- A brief, clear outline of your issue

An adviser will then call you back as soon as they can.

If your query is about our Help to Claim service for claiming Universal Credit:

- Help to Claim phone line Monday to Friday 09:00 - 17:00 **0800 144 8 444**
- Help to Claim chat online www.citizensadvice.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/contact-us/help-to-claim

Like everyone during these difficult times, we may need to change our service as Government guidance changes. We will stay in touch via email, social media and our website.

Additional info for Outreaches

As trusted partners and funders, if you are making a referral on behalf of a client from a specific location (to a specific outreach) please use the same adviceline number **0300 330 1183** between 10:00 - 15:00 Monday - Friday. In addition to the client's details, please state the location of the outreach the client would have accessed in normal circumstances. Where possible, the adviser from that outreach location will then be allocated the call back as a priority to help with their issue.

Please look after yourselves and please get in touch if you need us. As we have been for the last 80 year - we are here to help.